

North Takes Over Control of Sky League

Torrance Eyes Third Loop Win

Saxons Topple Olymps

"It was the finest game by any team I have ever coached. Our finest hour — all of the kids played up to their potential."

Such were the comments from dazed North High coach Skip Enger Friday night after his Saxons had trampled Leuzinger, 86-48, to gain sole possession of the Sky League basketball lead.

Both quintets were undefeated against circuit opposition and the contest put on display the finest display of basketball in the school's history to rout the highly-touted Olympians.

IT WAS strictly no contest from the beginning as the Saxons waltzed to a 22-16 lead after one quarter of play and shoved the margin to 44-28 at intermission.

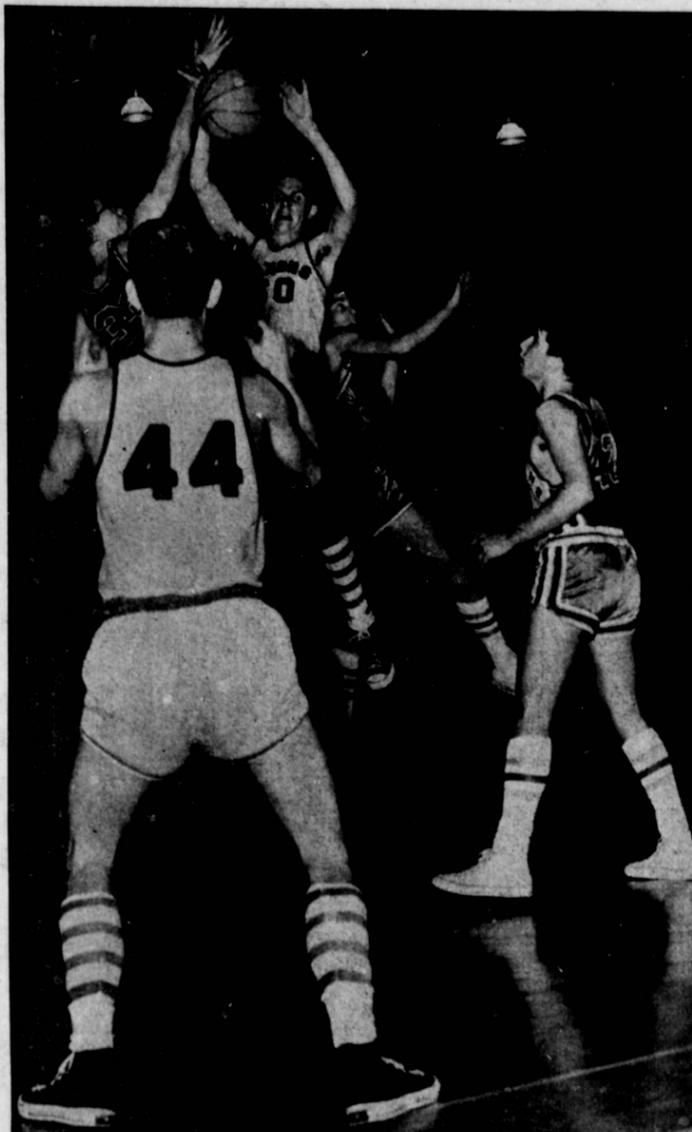
Four Saxon starters finished in double figures, led by guard Terry Tierney's 25 markers. Forward Mike Gratzke, continuing his assault on enemy buckets, pumped in 21 markers. Six-nine center Ron Taylor added 17 more and 6-5 Al Lepper contributed 11.

Leuzinger was completely stopped at every turn by the dogged Saxons. John Hiles, considered the area's finest offensive center, was limited to sweeping hook shots, and he could manage but 10 points. Hiles popped in only two points after intermission.

RANDY McMICHAELS, a second string all-leaguer last year, came off the bench to pace Leuzinger with 12 markers. Fred Mayfield flipped in 10 points.

The first half was almost unbelievable as Gatzke connected steadily from the outside. Taylor and Lepper controlled the boards and Tierney drove the Olympians crazy.

It was the 16th win for North in 21 starts and the fourth straight for the Saxons against Sky League opposition.



UP AND OUT . . . Saxon center Al Lepper goes high into the air in the fourth quarter of the North-Leuzinger game Friday night only to pass to Mike Gratzke (44). Gratzke pumped the ball through the hoop seconds later as the Saxons ran up an 86-48 victory over Leuzinger. Lepper, who hit for 11 markers, played a great defensive game and held Olymp high scorer John Hiles (33) to 10 points. Gratzke picked up 21 points for the Saxons. (Herald Photo)



6 GREGG PETERSON, Sports Editor FEBRUARY 2, 1964

TORRANCE WINS

Revenge Attempt by Lennox Falls Short Against Tartars

Torrance High's "H" boys, Walt Hale and Mike Hatter, almost single-handedly assured cage coach Will Boerger of a happy 37th birthday Friday night as they carried the Tartars to an 80-60 Pioneer League triumph over revenge-minded Lennox.

Hale plunked in 26 points and pulled down 21 rebounds while Hatter poured in 23 digits and hauled in 15 misguided shots to boost Torrance into second place with Lennox and West in the Pioneer chase.

LENNOX WAS out for revenge after a 115-65 licking from Torrance last year, but the Tartars simply had too much in Hatter, Hale and junior Bob Brennan.

Brennan hit 6 of 9 free throws and finished with 20 points.

Free throw accuracy assured Torrance of the win. The Tartars went into the final period with a one-point bulge and began using a stall offense.

Lennox fouled in an attempt to get the ball and Torrance sank 14 of 17 free throws while clicking on 7 of 8 field goals.

HATTER POPPED IN 7 of 9 charity tosses while Hale hit on 6 of 7 free throw attempts.

Torrance carried off a 16-6 first-quarter lead, but led at intermission by only two

points, 30-28. But then Boerger's club began the celebration and rang up 50 markers in the closing quarters.

In the third period THS drew a 23-14 scoring edge and held a 27-18 bulge in the last stanza.

Steve Smith popped in 20 points for Lennox, followed by

Jim O'Day with 17 and Rod Finch with 12.

BOERGER PRAISED both Brennan and guard Bob Romero for their work against the constant Lennox press. The Tartar coach felt his club had turned in their best effort of the season against the fired-up Cardinals.

South Bombards Helpless Samohi

Sophomore center Steve Kuckenbecker turned in his finest game of the season Friday night, pumping in 31 points and controlling both boards, as South High registered a 77-48 Bay League basketball triumph over Santa Monica.

Kuckenbecker, who almost single-handedly carried the Spartans to a double-overtime win over Palos Verdes in South's last start, was deadly from the charity line. The 6-5 sensation connected on 11 free throws in a row before missing his last two attempts.

FREE THROW accuracy was a major factor in South's win over the hapless Vikings. The Spartans dumped in their initial 14 free throws and wound up connecting on 21 of 28 attempts.

Don Denson, who has been ill with the flu, missed 12 minutes of playing time but still hit his league average of 21 points.

Rejuvenated John Thomas came through with his top performance in recent games and flipped 12 markers through the cords.

SOUTH RACED into a 17-13 lead after one quarter of play and recorded 24 more points in the second period to exit at intermission with a 41-27 edge. The Spartans continued to pour on the pressure after halftime, outscoring Samo, 18-9 in the third stanza, and 23-12 in the closing quarter.

El Camino Nets Third Metro Win

Two Torrance athletes, Jim Brennan and Cal Kindschi, triggered El Camino College to its third straight Metropolitan Conference cage victory Friday night.

Brennan, of Torrance High, canned 23 points, and Kindschi, of South High, pumped in 15 markers, as Camino recorded an 89-73 win over East Los Angeles.

Camino coming back from a 40-36 deficit at halftime, poured in 16 points in the final 4 minutes to cinch the win. The Warriors connected at a 60 per cent clip after intermission and gunned away at a 49 per cent rate for the game.

The lead man in Camino's streaking fast break, Brennan slipped in 15 of 26 shots, most of them layups.

Backing up Brennan and Kindschi, who was making his first start at Camino, were Jim Lloyd, who popped in 13 digits and hauled down 18 rebounds, Clark Canfield, with 12 markers, and Bob Garcia with 10 points.

Tartars To Host 'Gundo

Torrance High will be gunning for its third consecutive Pioneer League cage triumph Tuesday afternoon when El Segundo invades the Tartar gymnasium for a 3 p.m. battle.

Two defeats from Aviation and West hurt Torrance early in the year, but the Tartars bounced back with wins over Lawndale and Lennox to move into a three-way tie for second place.

The sudden emergence of Walt Hale and Mike Hatter pushed Torrance past Lennox on Friday. He carded 26 points and Hatter finished with 23 as THS grabbed an 80-60 win.

NORTH HIGH, still dizzy after an 86-48 win over Leuzinger, will close out the first round of Sky League action on Tuesday against inconsistent Inglewood on the Sentinel court.

Inglewood has been up and down. The Sentinels startled Beverly Hills on Friday with a one-point win and also own a triumph over Morningside.

The main Inglewood hope rests with the possibility of a letdown on North's part. The Saxons were sky-high for Friday's game with Leuzinger and may drop down a bit for the under-rated Sentis.

South High will attempt to continue its Bay League surge, traveling to Hawthorne Tuesday. The Cougars are winless against league opposition while South has compiled a 2-2 mark.

SOPHOMORE Steve Kuckenbecker and forward Don Denson will pace the Spartans. Kuckenbecker canned 31 points and Denson hit 21 in South's win over Santa Monica on Friday.

West High will tangle with upset-minded Lennox on Tuesday. The Warriors, saddled with two circuit defeats, must win to stay alive in the Pioneer League race.

Bishop Montgomery will come off a one-week rest on Tuesday when the Knights battle St. Bernards at Loyola University in a Camino Real League fracas.

RECREATION PLAY

Lama Room Fails to Shake Tolson-Vaughn Domination

Consistently high scoring Tolson-Vaughn Realty, led by Joe Moeller's 32 points, romped to a 93-32 Thursday Open League casaba win over the Lama Room in recent Torrance Recreation Department play.

Moeller accounted for 15 points in the final quarter to pace a 29-point effort by Tolson-Vaughn. Backing up

Moeller were manager Avery Bryant with 20, Ernie Woods with 18 and Jerry Matthews with 10.

Neal Swanson connected for 12 points and Terry Taylor added 11 for the Lama Room.

Frigid Magnavox absorbed a 57-14 licking from the El Camino Real Realty quintet in another Thursday League game. Mitch Malpee and Jim

Smith topped the winners with 13 digits each. Jim Thomas, with 4 points, was high-man for Magnavox.

Ed Lauchner and Gary Bunner gunned in 16 points each and manager Terry Birdsall added 11 more as the Hughes Basket Bombers outlasted the South High Teachers, 63-57.

Lowell Greenberg popped in 23 points and Sam Edwards contributed 15 more for South. Mike Novikoff poured in 10 points in the final quarter against Aeronca, but it was not enough to keep AirResearch from absorbing a 52-47 loss in Industrial League competition.

Novikoff wound up with 22 points to top all scorers. Bill Clark hit 19 and Al Gordon added 10 for Aeronca.

Consistent Harvey Aluminum picked off a 61-29 win over Local 1-547 as Harrison Washington (15), James Lewis (13) and John Williams (12) paved the way. Harold Welty canned 12 markers for the losers.

The Jack Kramer Club rambled to a 71-58 triumph over Foods Co. behind a 24-point performance by Avery Bryant and a 22-point effort by Russ Bierly. Manager Gary Little carded 25 markers and Joe Nelson contributed 16 for Foods Co.

Five men hit in double figures for Party House in Tuesday Open League play, and Redondo Ward absorbed a crushing 79-54 defeat. Howard Buettgenbach (15), Jim Mannix (15), Dave Corman (12), Marlin Muse (11) and Rich Ruffel (10) were top gunners for Party House.

Clark Merrill, Fred Hoopes and Gary Holly all plunked in 11 markers for Redondo.

Lawndale Upsets West Five, 60-54

Lawndale clicked on 5 of 6 outside shots in the final quarter Friday night to hand West High a 60-54 Pioneer League cage defeat and knock the Warriors out of undisputed possession of second place.

Trailing through most of the game, the Cardinals tied the count at 54-54 and then held West scoreless while banging in three more buckets.

WEST CARRIED an 8-to-10-point lead through most of the first half and exited at intermission with a 33-25 edge. When the final quarter began, Lawndale had cut the margin to two points at 44-42.

Guard Dan Thomas popped in 19 points, 15 coming in the first half to propel the Warriors. Rich Hall, connecting on 8 of 9 charity tosses, finished with 10 markers.

Big Bob Dunlap nudged Thomas for high-point honors at 20 and also had 15 markers by intermission.

The Warriors opened with

their usual half-court press and quickly built up an 11-2 lead before Lawndale became unflustered. After one quarter, West still held a 17-11 bulge.

Center John Cochran, although handcuffed with four fouls by intermission, still wound up with 21 rebounds and 9 points. Cochran was almost all of West's offense in the third quarter when he popped in six of the Warrior's 11 digits.

Foul trouble also hit Hall, and when he drew his fifth personal with the count knotted at 54-54, West chances also exited.

DEFEAT left West tied with Torrance, and Lennox for second place in the league. Aviation, still undefeated against loop opposition, remains securely in the top position.

Aviation boasts a 4-0 mark while West, Torrance and Lennox are 2-2 for the year. El Segundo and Lawndale, with 1-3 marks, are entrenched in the cellar.



UNSTOPPABLE . . . North High's 6-9 center, Ron Taylor, glides around his Leuzinger counterpart, John Hiles, Friday night to dump in two points. Taylor finished with 17 markers and was instrumental in the Saxon's crushing 86-48 triumph over the previously unbeaten Olympians. (Herald Photo)



FLYING YOUNG MAN . . . Guard Terry Tierney, who carded 25 points in North's win over Leuzinger on Friday, will lead the Saxons against Inglewood Tuesday afternoon in the final game of the first round of Sky League competition. (Herald Photo)